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POETRY.

From the Boston Post.

It is one of the commonest things in the world to hear aspirations for the "good old times." The phrase is so wide in its meaning and application, that it is difficult to decide just what particular century of the great past a speaker laments when talking of the "old times." It is hoped, however, that the aspirations of a majority of mortals over the past find embodiment in the following stanzas.

THE GOOD OLD TIMES.

Oh, would I had lived in the good old times,
When every dwelling had elbow-room,
When girls so healthy and women so hale
Knew not the piano, but belted at the loom;
When women and men were in homely dress,
Which was far better than silk or merino,
When coffee and tea had not shaken all nerves,
And the cider was better than our muscadine.

Oh, would I had lived in the good old times,
When pine knots served for warmth and for light,
When the air was not spoiled by a red hot stove,
Nor costly gas carried day into night;
When the timber stood in its smoke-blackened niche,
And the chimney and the long-jawed blacksmith rolled,
When and when soldiers bore fire on their backs,
And the bellows were ready to utter a word.

Oh, would I had lived in the good old times,
For reason our ancient faith was sapping—
When witches were plenty, as mediums are,
And ghosts stalked in without ever rapping;
When the point of a pin was a signal of danger,
When death at your window flew in with a bird,
And the hum of a bee brought the voice of a stranger.

Oh, would I had lived in the good old times,
When shoes had buckles and hats were cocked,
When the common man was formed by the birch,
And a boy was, as of old, a blackhead;
When the young men hunted the public streets,
To clap a nose upon a sabat-breaker's
And the church, if it had not the power to convert,
Could at least find rope to hang the Quakers.

Oh, would I had lived in the good old times,
In the palmy days of the fugitive,
When fire and steel and a phreos and rack
Gave heretics forests of endless position;
Or when soldiers were ready for mischievous feet,
When the whipping post stood in the public square,
And the gibbet and pillory breathed around
A nice morality into the air.

Oh, would I had lived in the good old times,
When the sheep were as big as a modern ox,
And the quaker raised their heads as a Durham tarsus,
To a height as tall as a giant's toes;
When the lot just to be that strayed north-east,
At luncheon nibbled a stewed benevolence,
And every day sat down to a feast,
And dined on a stuffed and roasted mammoth.

Oh, would I had lived in the good old times,
When the ferns were as high as the big elm tree,
And the trees were as high as Beacon Hill,
When the beaver was up there for folk to see;
When the acorns were bigger than pumpkins with
And the pumpkins were fifty feet about,
And the grapes as large as a ten pound shot,
Would fetch by the ton what we give for a pound.

Oh, would I had lived in the good old times,
In the glorious days of the gas formation,
When man had lived or fallen at all,
Some thousands of years ere Adam's creation;
Oh, then, what worthy good things were mine,
When the quaker and the large ox a Durham tarsus,
And instead of catching snuff with a ship,
I had bobbed live hogs for ichthyosaurus.

AGRICULTURE.

GATHERING AND KEEPING THE PEAR.
Nearly all pears ripen with a much finer flavor if picked and matured in the house. The exceptions are very rare. Some which prove only second or third rate when allowed to remain till they soften on the tree, become rich, melting delicious if house ripened. Gathering the fruit while yet hard, will in nearly all cases prevent or greatly diminish the rotting at the core, which otherwise nearly destroys the value of many early sorts.

Winter pears should hang upon the tree as late as safety will allow, and when gathered should be kept in a cool room till near their usual period of maturity, when the ripening is to be completed in a temperature of 60 degrees to 70 degrees. They should be kept covered to prevent shriveling. Some cultivators have wholly repudiated winter pears merely ripening, for want of skill or the management of their ripening, or the want of a good cellar to keep them in. Some sorts, however, as the Beurre d'Arenberg, require but little care; others, as the Vicar of Wakefield, need particular attention. But the transfer from the cool to the warm room is of great importance to most and will convert tough and hard specimens into those which are juicy, melting and excellent.—*Thomson.*

HOW TO RAISE FRUIT EVERY YEAR.—If rightly understood, few trees, unless absolutely dead or rotten, need occupy ground, without yielding a plentiful crop. After a long and varied series of experiments, I gradually adopted the following mode:

As soon as the winter has sufficiently disappeared, and before the sap ascends, I examine my trees; every dead bough is lopped off. Then, after the sap has risen sufficiently to show where the blossoms will be, I cut away all the branches having none on, and also the extremity of every limb, the lower part of which bears a considerable number of buds, thus concentrating the sap of the tree upon the maturation of its fruit, and saving what would be a useless expenditure of strength. In the quince, apple and peach trees, it is very important, as these are apt to be luxuriant in leaves, and destitute of fruit. You may think this injures the trees, but it does not; for you will find trees laden with fruit which formerly yielded nothing. Of course, all other well known cautions must be attended to, such as cutting out worms from the roots, placing old iron on the limbs, which act as a tonic to the sap &c. Try it, ye who have failed in raising fruit.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A NEW YORK RAG PICKER.

The rag-pickers of New York are a queer set of beings. We have gone among them, seen their manner of life, and have heard their stories from their own lips. We shall here give one of these narratives told us by an old man whom we met in the course of our investigations. His story was not of the most cheering character; still he appeared to be content with his lot, and never railed at that fortune which had placed him at the lowest point in the social scale.

We give his account of himself as he related it to us, in reply to our inquiries. In answer to our question as to when he commenced picking up rags in the streets, he said:

"I am not exactly certain, but as near as I can remember, it is about a year and a half. Before that I used to pick up wood at fires, and at buildings when they would be taking them down. This wood I sold by the basket, but I wasn't able to make more than sixpence or eightpence a day at the most, while there were many days I couldn't earn anything at all at it."

"I suppose you found rag-picking more profitable than that?"

"Oh, a great deal, for the sticks were not always to be had. Besides, there were a great many others engaged at it who were more active and stronger than myself, and I had little chance among them. I found it very hard to support myself, and then I had a very sore foot which I have never been able to get cured, for I have to walk on it all the time. No, indeed, I am not able to travel like others. God help me, but if I was smarter on my feet I might make more, but then you see I am old and feeble, and every day I find it harder to get along."

"When I was picking sticks," he said, after a brief pause, "I was not strong enough to carry the big timber, and had to be content with the chips and smaller pieces that would be left by others. Then, you know, a great deal of the wood I gathered I used to bring home with me for firing."

"What was the largest amount you could make at this kind of work?" we inquired.

"Well, that depended upon the weather and other things; but anyhow, the most I could make was half a dollar a week, and it was very seldom I got that. Still that helped the family along, and it was better than nothing."

"How many persons are there in your family?"

"Well, let me see," said the old man counting. "There is myself and wife, that's two; and there are my three daughters—all grown up women—that makes five, and my two grand-children, one about four and the other about six years old, so that you see there are seven of us dependent to feed, and God knows that's a hard job. Two of my daughters are engaged at some kind of needle work, but it pays very poorly, and the other is employed at home, but she goes out whenever she can get a day's washing to do. My grand-children are too young to do anything yet."

"Your daughters would not be able to support you out of their own earnings," we suggested.

"No, sir; they are trying to get along as well as they can, and they have to work hard to support themselves and the rest of the family. Anything that I make, though it is ever so little, helps us along."

"What do you pay a month for your rent?"

"Five dollars for two rooms, which we have to pay in advance always, for fear of being turned out, for our landlord is very strict. When there isn't a flush of work for my daughters we find it very hard to keep enough to pay the rent. When we arrived in this country, about three years ago, one of my daughters was engaged as a nurse in a family, and got twelve dollars a month, while the other went out to service, and earned five or six dollars a month. We found it easier to manage then, for things were not so dear, and then there was not so many of us at home to support."

"Now, they are all at home, and of course there are more mouths to fill."

know me. Sometimes when I happen to be too late, I don't get the paper, because they can't keep them for me till I come around again, though some of them do. And then you see if I was late, I would lose my chance at the pickings in the streets besides, for they are taken up at once by other rag-pickers. The only streets I travel through is the Bowery and Chatham, from Hester down to the Park, where my journey ends."

"About what time do you get through your morning's work?"

"Nine or ten o'clock, when I sell all the papers I have gathered, and get some breakfast, which is generally a piece of bread and some milk. When I have done that, I go down to the docks about Washington Market, where I pick up rags and anything else I may find lying about the streets."

"Do you ever happen to find any money when you are engaged at this work?"

"Sometimes, but it is very seldom. Now, yesterday I found a three cent piece, and one day I was lucky enough to find two sixpences. But it is not often that happens. Another day I found a lot of knives, wrapped up in a paper parcel, which I picked among the sweepings of a store. I knew from the weight that it could not be paper only, and I was right, for when I opened it I found a lot of knives. I then took them into the store and gave them to the boy himself, and not to the owner, because I knew if I gave them to him that the boy would be blamed for his carelessness, and I should not like that, as he was always very good to me, and kept the papers for me when I couldn't get around, and indeed the owner of the store was very good to me himself, and often gave me something to help me along."

"What time do you go home in the evening?"

"I stop picking up about four or five o'clock in the afternoon, and when I have sold all that's in my bag I go home. Between what I pick up in the morning and in the afternoon I sometimes make three or four shillings a day; but there are some days, you see, when I can't make more than half of that."

"How do you manage to get along in the winter?"

"Indeed, very poorly; for cold weather so well as other rag pickers, and then it is so dark early in the morning that I can't see so well; besides, if I fell upon the ice I might break some of my limbs."

"Besides what you pick up in the streets, don't you get something else to assist you, from charitable people?"

"Not very often. The other day a poor woman who was begging cold victuals in the streets stopped me and gave me some; and there is a woman down at the market who keeps an apple stand, and she called me over to her two or three times, and asked me if I was hungry, and when I told her that I was she gave me some cakes. There is another apple woman near the same place, who was very good to me too; and as I was passing down Chatham street one morning, some time ago, a woman came to me out of a house and gave me some bread and meat."

Here the poor old creature proceeded to enumerate various acts of charity which he had received from different persons, the majority of whom, it is particularly deserving of mention, were poor, struggling like himself for a subsistence. Verifying the words of the poet, that,

"The poor man alone,
When he hears the poor groan,
Of his morsel a morsel will give."

He had also been subject to a great deal of annoyance from the rowdies about the market, and on one occasion he was thrown into the gutter, where he lay, unable to help himself, till he was picked up by a boy, who cleaned the dirt off his clothes and gave him ten cents. Of this kind act he seemed to have a proper appreciation.

"He was a fine boy," said he, "and I think he could hardly afford to give me so much money, for I am sure, by his appearance, he had to work hard for it."

"How are you paid for the paper and rags which you find in the streets?"

"Well, that depends upon the kind of rags and papers. They give me two cents a pound for colored ones, and five cents for all I can get that is clean and white. Sometimes I wash the rags and hang them up in the basement of the house where I live to dry, and then I take them to the rag store. I only get a cent and a quarter a pound for the paper I find in the streets, because it is generally dirty and is made up of every kind. The woolsen rags are of no use to me, for you see they cannot make paper of them; but some of the other rag-pickers get woolsen rags, but I never find out where they sold them."

"What do you get for the old iron?"

"In some places I get more than in others. Some shops give me a cent a pound, but others don't give me more than half a cent. I would rather have the paper, though I take everything I can get."

"Do you ever expect to make a fortune by rag-picking?"

"A fortune!" said the old man smiling; "if I could make any kind of a living it is all I want. We must try and keep the life in our bodies, and that is just about all we can do. The winter will soon be on us, and we will find it pretty hard to make out."

we can do. The winter will soon be on us, and we will find it pretty hard to make out."

Here our conversation with the old rag-picker ended. It opened a new phase of human life to our view, and we have no doubt will startle the humane feelings of many of our readers.

Voyage Around the World without Seeing Land.

We published an account, obtained from a source which we deemed authentic, and which proves to have been substantially correct, of a voyage round the world, made since the month of October 1852 in the space of less than five months, in which not one of the ship's company either landed, or even saw land. This ship was the Benjamin Rush of Warren, R. I., which sailed from that port on the 13th of October last, on a whaling voyage to the Pacific Ocean, and proceeding round Cape Horn to the whaling ground, after having taken two whales, the captain and three of the men, while in the act of taking a third, were killed. The efficiency of the crew was so much enfeebled by this melancholy loss, that the mate, on whom the command devolved, deemed it expedient to come home. To accomplish this object, he continued westwardly on his voyage, and in 148 days of his own reckoning, or 147 of real time, he crossed his outward track, and arrived at Warren, her port of departure, on the 16th of June last, no one of the crew having in the mean time landed from the ship. We copy the following account of this remarkable voyage from the Warren Northern Star. We wish it were in our power to publish a more full journal of the voyage.

Mr. RANDALL.—Having seen some remarks, taken from a Boston paper, referring to the late remarkable voyage of the ship Benjamin Rush, of this port, which remarks are, in part, erroneous, I send you a correct and more minute statement of the voyage, which will illustrate the enterprise of our whalers, who now make the whole watery surface of the globe their common fishing ground.

The Benjamin Rush sailed from this port on the 13th of October, 1852, and returned June 16th, 1853, having been absent from home eight months and three days. In this time she had passed the Atlantic Ocean twice in its length, and made the circuit of the globe. During the whole time of her absence, no person had been out of the ship, except in the boats when after whales. They saw land but twice on the voyage, in both instances in the Atlantic Ocean.

On the 17th of November, when 35 days out, they passed in sight of the Cape Verde Islands; on the 11th of December they passed to the westward the island of Trinidad, one of the "Martin Van" group, situated in lat. 20° 31' S., long. 26° 37' W., but did not see it. One hundred and forty-seven days after this, on the 7th of May, 1853, the Benjamin Rush crossed her track near this island, having from this point, completely circumnavigated the earth without seeing land. A day or two after crossing her track and completing the circuit, they made the island of Trinidad, being the second and last time of seeing land on the voyage.

The account before referred to, states "one whale was captured in the sea of Japan, and at that time the captain and boat's crew were lost." This is a mistake. The ship did not go near the Japan sea. They took two whales on the voyage, one of which was killed by the common enemy of the whale, called a "killer." In the attempt to take the third whale, not far from New Zealand, February 24th, the sad accident occurred by which the capable and promising captain and three young men were instantly killed. The ship then continued on, and returned home under the charge of the chief mate.

The time of the Benjamin Rush's passage around the world is estimated from the date of her departure from a given point unto the date of her return to the same point, which is 147 days; but by the ship's account, she was 148 days, having, as all vessels do, gained one day by going around the world East; yet her dates agree with our dates, both on leaving and returning.

What became, it may be asked, of the gained day? It was included in the second week in March, which to them contained eight days. They had two legal and proper Wednesdays of March 9th, 1853, being the day or days they passed from East to West longitude.

FEAR.—It has often been observed that a man will readily face danger and death in one form, and be afraid of it in another; and this remark was strikingly exemplified in Janor, one of Bonaparte's generals, who raised himself by his coolness when Bonaparte was besieging Toulon. He was writing something by order of the latter, when a bombshell burst near him; he promptly observed that he wanted sand; and it had come in due time. Yet I remember to have heard Sir Sydney Smith, speaking of Janor in the captain's room at the admiralty, say that when he was going on board one of Bonaparte's ships, he was so frightened in watching the ladder, that it was found necessary to take him on board through one of the port-holes.

Tobacco.

The Tobacco plant is indigenous to tropical America, whence it was introduced into Spain and France in the beginning of the sixteenth century by the Spaniards, and into England half a century later (1586), by Sir Francis Drake. Since that time both the use and the cultivation of the plant have spread over a large portion of the globe. Besides the different parts of America, including Canada, New Brunswick, the United States, Mexico, the Western coast, the Spanish Main, Brazil, Cuba, St. Domingo, Trinidad, etc., it has spread in the East into Turkey, Persia, India, China, Australia, Philippine Islands, and Japan. It has been raised with success also nearly in every country in Europe; while in Africa, it is cultivated in Egypt, Algeria, in the Canaries, on the Western coast, and at the Cape of Good Hope. It is, indeed, among narcotics, what the potato is among food plants—the most extensively cultivated, the most hardy, and the most tolerant of change in temperature, altitude and general climate.

We need scarcely remark that the use of the plant has become not less universal than its cultivation. In America it is met with everywhere, and the consumption is enormous. In Europe, from the plains of sunny Castile to the frozen Archangel, the pipe and the cigar are a common solace among all ranks and conditions. In vain was the use of it prohibited in Russia, and the knout threatened for the first offence, and death for the second. In vain Pope Urban VIII. thundered out his bull against it. In vain our own James I. wrote his "Counterblast to Tobacco." Opposition only excited more general attention to the plant, awakened curiosity regarding it, and promoted its consumption.

So in the East—the priests and the soldiers of Turkey and Persia declared smoking a sin against their holy religion, yet nevertheless the Turks and Persians became the greatest smokers in the world. In Turkey the pipe is perpetually in the mouth; in India all classes of both sexes smoke; in China the practice is so universal that "every female, from the age of eight or nine years wears as an appendage to her dress, a small silver pocket, to hold tobacco and a pipe." It is even argued by Pallas that the extensive prevalence of the practice in Asia, and especially in China, proves the use of tobacco for smoking to be more ancient than the discovery of the New World. "Among the Chinese," he says, "and amongst the Mongol tribes who had the most intercourse with them, the custom of smoking is so general, so frequent, and has become so indispensable a luxury, the tobacco pipe affixed to their belt so necessary an article of dress; the form of pipes, from which the Dutch seems to have taken the model of theirs, so original; and, lastly, the preparation of the yellow leaves, which are merely rubbed to pieces and then put into the pipe, so peculiar—that they could not possibly derive all this from America by the way of Europe, especially as India, where the practice of smoking, not so general, intervenes between Persia and China."

Leaving this question of its origin, the reader will not be surprised, when he considers how widely the practice of smoking prevails, that the total produce of tobacco, grown on the face of the globe, has been calculated by Mr. Crawford, to amount to the enormous quantity of two millions of tons. The comparative magnitude of this quantity will strike the reader more forcibly, when we state that the whole of the wheat consumed by the inhabitants of Great Britain—estimating it a quarter of a head, or in round numbers, of twenty millions of quarters—weighs only four and one-third millions of tons; so that the tobacco, yearly raised, for the gratification of this one form of the narcotic appetite, weighs as much as the wheat consumed by ten millions of Englishmen. And reckoning it only double the market value of wheat, or two pence and a fraction per pound, it is worth, in money, as much as all the wheat eaten in Great Britain.

The largest producers, and probably the largest consumers of tobacco are the United States of America.

One of the remarkable circumstances connected with the history of tobacco is, the rapidity with which its growth and consumption have increased, in almost every country, since the discovery of America. In 1662, the quantity raised in Virginia—the chief producer of tobacco on the American shores of the Atlantic—was 60,000 lbs., and the quantity exported from that colony in 1689, only 120,000 lbs. In two hundred and thirty years, the produce has risen to nearly twice as many millions. And the extension of its use in our own country may be inferred from the fact that, in the above year of 1689, the total importation was 120,000 lbs. of Virginia tobacco, part of which was probably re-exported; while in 1852, the quantity entered for home consumption amounted to 28,558,774 lbs., being something over a pound per head of the whole population; and to this must be added the large quantity of contraband tobacco, which the heavy duty of 3s. per pound upon the smuggler to introduce. The whole duty levied on the above quantity in 1852, was £1,360,741, which is equal to a poll tax of 3s. a head.

The Sick Bachelor.

Here I am a doomed man—booked for a fever in this gloomy room, up four flights of stairs; nothing to look at but one table, two chairs, and a cobweb; pulse racing like a locomotive; head throbbing as if it were hooped with iron; mouth parched as Ishmael's in the desert; not a bell rope within reach; sun pouring in through those uncurtained windows hot enough to singe off my eyelashes; all my confidential letters lying loose on the table, and I couldn't get up to them if you held one of Colt's revolvers to my head. All my masculine (?) friends are parading Broadway, I suppose, peeping under the pretty girls' bonnets, or drinking "sherry cobbler." A sherry cobbler! Bacchus! what a luxury. I believe Satan suggested the thought to me.

Heigho! I suppose the doctor, whom they have sent for will come before long; some great pompous Asclepius with an owl phiz, a gold headed cane, an oracular voice, and callous heart and hands; who will first manipulate my wrist, and then take the latitude and longitude of my tongue; then he will give me a punch in the ribs, and torment me with more questions than there are in the Assembly catechism; then he'll bother me for writing materials to scratch a hieroglyphic humbug prescription, ordering five times as much medicine as I need; then I shall have to pay for it; then ten to one the apothecary's boy will put up poison by mistake! Caesar, how my head spins round! Hippodrome racing is nothing to it.

That! there's the doctor! No! it is that little unregenerate cub, my landlady's pet boy, with a bran new drum, (as I'm alive), upon which he is beating a crucifying tattoo. If I only had a bootjack to throw at him! No! that wouldn't do; his mother wouldn't make my gavel. I'll bribe him for a six pence to keep the peace. The little embryo Jew, he says he *wouldn't do it under a quarter!* Twitted by a little pinafore! I. Tom Halliday, six feet in my stockings! I shall go frantic.

"Doctor is coming!" Well, let him come—I'm as savage as if I'd just dined off a cold missionary. I'll pretend to be asleep, and let old Pilbox experiment.

How gently he trends; how soft his hand is; and how cool and delicious his touch; how tenderly he parts my hair over my throbbing temples! His magnetic touch thrills every drop of blood in my veins; it is marvelous how soothing it is. I feel as happy as a humming bird in a lily cup, drowsy with honey dew. Now he's moved away. I hear him writing a prescription. I'll just take a peep, and see what he looks like. Caesar Agrippa! if it isn't a *Female Physician!* dainty as a Peri—and my beard three days old! What a bust! (Wonder how my hair looks?) What a foot and ankle! What shoulders; what a little round waist! Fever! I've got twenty fevers, and the heart complaint besides. What the mischief sent that little witch here? She will either kill or cure me quick.

Wonder if she has any more masculine patients? Wonder if they are handsome? Wonder if she says that little hand on their foreheads, as she did on mine? Now she's done writing. I'll shut my eyes and groan, and then, may be, she will *pet me some more*; bless her little soul!

She says, "poor!" as she holds my wrist, "his pulse is too quick." In the name of Cupid, what does she expect? She says, as she pats my forehead with her little plump fingers. "Sh—sh! Keep cool!" Lava and brimstone! does she take me for an iceberg?

Oh, Cupid! of all your devices, this feminine doctoring for a bachelor, is the *plus ultra* of witchcraft. If I don't have a prolonged run of fever, my name isn't Tom Halliday!

She's gone!—and I'm gone, too!

Mrs. Partington on Politics.

"Was Paul inclined to politics?" we asked of Mrs. Partington, as we saw the old dame reading a "grand rally" hand bill at the corner of the grocery store. She asked us to wait a moment till she disengaged her specs. "Inclined to politics!" said she, and her eyes rested upon the period at the end of the last line, till she seemed to be meditating a full stop. "He was, but he was a propagandist, not an oligarchist, or an aviatorist nor a denigrator as some of 'em are, all he wanted was an exercise of his sufferings; and the use of his elective French eyes, as he used to say. Ah, heaven rest him!" exclaimed she, as her eyes rose from the period at the bottom of the bill and rested on the top of the fence. "But did he never get an office, Mrs. P?" we asked. "Yes," replied she, and she fancied the tone of her voice had an expression of triumph in it—enough to be perceptible, like three drops of paragon in a teaspoonful of water—"yes, he was put one year for a hogreeder and got neglected."

As we were about asking her opinion of the new constitution, like some shrewd "stranger" "Jordan" and waving a part of milk in a tin pail, trotted her head, and the old lady forgot her politics in her sentiment about the snuffing of her new cap.

A Fast Story.

An Englishman was bragging the speed on English railroads to a Yankee traveller seated at his side in one of the cars of a "fast train," in England. The engine bell was rung as the train neared a station. It suggested to the Yankee an opportunity of "taking down his companion a peg or two."

"What's that noise?" innocently inquired the Yankee.

"We are approaching a town," said the Englishman. "They have to commence ringing about ten miles before they get to a station, or else the train would run by it before the bell could be heard! Wonderful, isn't it? I suppose they haven't invented bells in America yet?"

"Why, yes," replied the Yankee, "we've got bells, but can't use them on our railroads. We run so 'tarnal fast that the train always keeps ahead of the sound. No use whatever; the sound never reaches the village till after the train gets by."

"Indeed!" exclaimed the Englishman.

"Fact," said the Yankee, "had to give up bells. Then we tried steam-whistles—but they wouldn't answer, either. I was on a locomotive when the whistle was tried. We were going at a tremendous rate—hurricanes were howling, and I had to hold my hair on. We saw a two-horse wagon crossing the track, about five miles ahead, and engineer let the whistle on, screeching like a trooper. It screamed awfully, but it wasn't no use. The next I knew, I was picking myself out of a proud by the road side, amid the fragments of the locomotive, dead horses, broken wagon and dead engineer, lying beside me. Just then the whistle came along, mixed up with some frightful oaths that I had heard the engineer use when he first saw the horses. Poor fellow, he was dead before his voice got to him. After that we tried *lights*, supposing these would travel faster than sound.—We got some so powerful that the chickens woke up all along the road when we came by, supposing it to be morning. But the locomotive kept ahead of it still, and was in the darkness, with the light close on behind it. The inhabitants petitioned against it; they couldn't sleep with so much light in the night time. Finally we had to station electric telegraphs along the road, with signal men to telegraph when the train was in sight; and I have heard that some of the fast trains beat the lightning 15 minutes every 40 miles. But I can't say as that is true—the rest I know to be so."

LAW OF R. I. ISLAND.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCES. PLACAT.

In General Assembly, Sept. Session, A. D. 1853. AN ACT to facilitate the collection and prevent the circulation of counterfeit and altered Bank Bills. It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows: Section 1. Any and every bank now established, or which may be established under the authority of the General Assembly of this State, which shall receive in payment, or upon deposit, or for redemption from any other bank, or from any person or persons, any counterfeit bank bills, shall and may write or stamp upon such bank bill, the word "counterfeit," adding thereto or underneath, the name of the bank, and the initials of its officer, by which such writing or stamp shall be made.

Sec. 2. Any bank note or bill which may have been altered from its original denomination or amount to some other, may in like manner be stamped with the word "altered," in such manner as to give notice of such alteration.

Sec. 3. If any bank or its officer shall by mistake or inadvertence make any such writing or stamp upon a bank note or bill which is not in fact a counterfeit or altered bill, the bank or its officer shall not be answerable in damages for any sum greater than the actual loss or damage which such mistake or inadvertence may produce.

True copy—witness: A. POTTER, Sec'y.

AN ACT respecting Agencies of Life Stock Insurance Companies.

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows: Any company incorporated for the purpose of Life Stock Insurance by the laws of any State or country, may establish an agency upon the same terms and conditions now by law imposed upon agencies of Life Insurance Companies by an act passed January 16, 1846.

True copy—witness: A. POTTER, Sec'y.

An amendment to "An Act to establish a Court of Magistrates in the City of Providence." Whereas, In the Act to establish a Court of Magistrates in the City of Providence, passed at the May session, A. D. 1852, it was intended, that the General Assembly should confer on said Court jurisdiction over cases commenced by process issued out of the former Court of Magistrates of said city; but said Act contains no express language conferring such jurisdiction. Therefore, It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows: The Court of Magistrates of the City of Providence, established by act of this General Assembly passed at the May session, A. D. 1852, is hereby authorized to take jurisdiction over all cases commenced by original process issued by the former Court of Magistrates of said city, and which were pending at the time of the passage of said act, whether said process had been returned to said former Court, or if continued, or was first returned to the present Court, and to hear, try, determine, enter up judgment and issue in said cases, as fully and effectually as if said cases had first been commenced by process issued out of the present Court.

True copy—witness: A. POTTER, Sec'y.

AN ACT in amendment of an act entitled an act enlarging the jurisdiction of Special Courts of Common Pleas, and amending proceedings therein. It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows: Sec. 1. Nothing in the act contained to which this is an amendment, shall be deemed to give to Special Courts of Common Pleas jurisdiction of any action founded on a deed of mortgage for the possession of estates.

True copy—witness: A. POTTER, Sec'y.

RESOLUTION discharging John Radkin from Providence Reform School. Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the Providence Reform School be, and they are hereby directed to discharge John Radkin, the term for which he was sentenced to said School, having expired.

True copy—witness: A. POTTER, Sec'y.

RESOLUTION relative to the petition of the Baggage Tax. Resolved, That it is the sense of this General Assembly, that the Constitution of this State ought to be amended by the addition of the Baggage Tax provided for in said petition.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

KINGSTON, Monday, Oct. 31.
Met, no quorum present, and adjourned till 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning.

KINGSTON, Tuesday, Nov. 1.

SENATE.—The Senate met at 10 o'clock. His Excellency Gov. Dimond in the chair. Prayer by the Rev. Joel R. Mann. Communications were exchanged by the two Houses, announcing that each were organized and ready to proceed with the business of the session.

The docket of unfinished business was called and mostly disposed of.

Sundry accounts were received and referred to the Committee on Accounts.

Adjusted to Wednesday morning, at 10 o'clock.

HOUSE.—The House met at 10 o'clock.

The Speaker, Hon. Thomas Steer, of Smithfield, in the chair.

The docket of unfinished business was taken up and read.

The semi-annual Report of the General Treasurer was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Petition of Providence Artillery, for an appropriation. Granted and act passed.

Mr. Steere, (Mr. A. V. Potter in the chair) offered an act calling a Convention of the people of the State, and moved a suspension of the rules.

The bill was read, and the substance of it was as follows:—The bill provides that persons qualified to vote under the present Constitution, shall be entitled to vote on the proposition of calling the Delegates together elected on the 25th day of June last, for the purpose of amending the present Constitution, the election of a new one, or a qualification for voting, and the distributing of the cities and towns into wards, and the choice of Representatives in the General Assembly. The voting to take place on the 21st day of November, instant, vacancies in delegation from any town or city to be filled on the same day.

After considerable debate, and the rejection of a motion to lay the motion of Mr. Steere upon the table, and a motion to adjourn, made by Mr. Dixon, the motion of Mr. Steere, suspending the rules was adopted.

The bill was then read by its title, and passed to second reading. Adjourned.

KINGSTON, Wednesday, Nov. 2.

SENATE.—The Senate met at 10 o'clock, but without transacting any business, and adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

HOUSE.—The petition of William H. Green, of Providence, for remuneration of counsel fees in the celebrated liquor case, in which the petitioner was defendant, amounting to the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, was received and referred to a select committee.

Mr. Cranston, from the Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred the petition of George Taylor of Newport, a subject of Great Britain, for leave to convey certain real estate in the city of Newport, made a report in favor thereof, accompanied by a resolution in conformity thereto, which was read and passed.

On motion of Mr. Potter, of Providence, the act, introduced yesterday, recommending to the people of this State a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the present constitution, was taken up for consideration.

After the bill had been opposed at length by Messrs. Dixon, B. Worth, Cranston, Spencer, and Sherman, and supported by the following:—Messrs. A. V. Potter, Arnold, B. Worth, Cranston, Spencer, Sherman, and Sherman, the bill was passed by the following vote:—

Ayes—Messrs. A. V. Potter, Arnold, B. Worth, Cranston, Spencer, Sherman, and Sherman, 15.
Nays—Messrs. Dixon, B. Worth, Cranston, Spencer, and Sherman, 10.

A resolution directing the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, Providence, to cause an index to be made to certain records in his office, was read and passed.

The Senate concurred with the House in the passage of the act recommending a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments to the present constitution, by the following vote:—

Ayes—Messrs. A. V. Potter, Arnold, B. Worth, Cranston, Spencer, Sherman, and Sherman, 15.
Nays—Messrs. Dixon, B. Worth, Cranston, Spencer, and Sherman, 10.

Report of Town Council of Newport in relation to the Jewish Synagogue Fund, ordered to be placed on file.

Adjourned to Thursday.

HOUSE.—Mr. Potter, of Providence, offered the following resolution, which was read and passed:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire into the expediency of any law in relation to the Jews, and that the committee report on or before the 1st day of January next.

Messrs. A. V. Potter, Parson Spencer, and Lewis B. Arnold were appointed said committee.

Mr. Peck, of Providence, submitted the following resolution, which was read and passed:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire into the expediency of any law in relation to the Jews, and that the committee report on or before the 1st day of January next.

Messrs. A. V. Potter, Parson Spencer, and Lewis B. Arnold were appointed said committee.

Mr. Weeden, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the petition of the Mayor and City Council of the city of Newport, in relation to street commissioners in that city, reported an act in conformity thereto, which was read and passed.

Petition of Rowland H. Carpenter to have fine and costs refunded, granted and act passed.

Petition of James and Nancy Jordan for leave to adopt child, read and concurred.

Petition of Cato Brigham for restoration to his civil rights, read and concurred.

The Committee on Corporations, to which was referred the petition of A. V. Potter and others, praying to be incorporated under the Rhode Island Horticultural Society, reported an act for that purpose, which was read and passed.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the petition of F. W. Egan and wife for leave to adopt child, reported a resolution in conformity thereto, which was read and passed.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the petition of Cato Brigham, for restoration to his civil rights, reported a resolution for that purpose, which was read and passed.

A report from the Senate, directing the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, Providence, to cause an index to be made to certain records in his office, was read and passed.

The yellow fever has again appeared at Providence.

BY THE MAIL.

JAPAN.—Commodore Perry's expedition from Japan has returned to China. The expedition left Jeddah 17th August, the Commodore having succeeded in obtaining an interview with two Princes of the Empire, and had delivered the letter from the President of the United States, as also his own credentials. It was arranged that the subject-matter required the consideration of the Emperor and the great Ministers of State, an answer should be called for next spring. The Governor of the Japanese Province of Uraga visited the Commodore, and was very inquisitive. He seemed to know a great deal about America, and even made inquiries respecting the progress of the Isthmus Railroad. The London Times' correspondent writes that when Commodore Perry returns, he will find forts erected to give him a hostile instead of a friendly reception.

The Americans in China have requested Com. Perry to station a ship at Canton or Whampoa. The Commodore is at present there, the Commodore at Macao, and the Saratoga at Shanghai.

The following interesting account of the movements of the expedition is from the North China Mail, of Aug. 11th:

"We are enabled to give the following authentic particulars of Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan:

"The squadron, consisting of the steam frigates Susquehanna and Mississippi, and the sloops of war Plymouth and Saratoga, sailed from the harbor of Napa-kiang, in Lecheon, on the 2nd of July. On the 8th inst., they reached Cape Idz, near the southern entrance of the Bay of Jeddah, and, sailing directly up the bay, anchored in the afternoon off the town of Uraga, more than a mile beyond the former anchorage of the Morrison and Columbus.

The appearance of the steamers—the first ever seen in Japanese waters—with the other vessels in tow, moving with all sails furled at the rate of nine or ten knots an hour, appeared to produce considerable sensation among the Japanese, and all the trading ships, with which the bay was crowded, actually kept out of their way.

"As the vessels were coming to anchor, two shells or rockets were fired into the air from a battery about a mile distant, but apparently as a signal, and not as a token of hostility. Several Government boats immediately came off, and endeavored to get on board the vessel the usual notification to foreigners, warning them to depart. They were not received, however, and the Commodore, who was the only person allowed to come on board, was notified that, if the Japanese authorities endeavored to surround the ships with the usual cordon of boats, it would lead to very serious consequences. A few boats, nevertheless, lingered around the Commodore, but the sight of some warlike preparation satisfied them that Commodore Perry was earnest, and they quickly retired. During the stay of the squadron in the bay, it is never afterwards visited by any boats, except those containing the officials through whom the negotiations were carried on."

"The morning, Yezamoon the Governor of Uraga, and a nobleman of the third rank, came off, and ascertaining the object of the visit, asked for time to dispatch an express to Jeddah in order to communicate the formation, and obtain instructions how to proceed. During the three days which elapsed before the answer arrived, the Commodore made a trip of about ten miles, further up the bay, finding everywhere deep soundings. Beyond the promontory of Uraga, a point which no foreign vessel had passed before, she discovered a large and beautiful light, which was perfectly land-locked, and offered the most secure and commodious anchorage. She was followed at a distance by a number of Government boats, but none of them attempted to interfere with her, or with the entries of the different vessels which were sounding in advance of her. The presence of the squadron appeared to cause no interruption to the inland commerce, for the bay was at all times crowded with large junks and hundreds of small craft, passing up and down.

"On Tuesday, the 12th, an answer from Jeddah stating that the Emperor had appointed an officer of the highest rank to proceed to Uraga and receive the letter of the President of the United States, and, satisfactory proofs having been given to Commodore Perry that this appointment came directly from the Imperial Government, it was arranged, the interview should take place on the morning of the 14th.

"The Commodore was first informed on his arrival, that Nagasaki was the proper port from which to negotiate with the Japanese Government, but he replied that a request to proceed thither could be an insult to his Government.

"The Japanese selected the small town of Gori-hama, about three miles south of Uraga, for the interview. On the morning of the 14th the Commodore and the Mississippi took up a position of the town, and lay with their broadsides to the shore. The Governor and Deputy Governor of Uraga, with the Commandant of the military forces, came off to accompany the Commodore to the landing place. Three houses had been erected by the Japanese, one of which was prepared for the interview, while the other two were apparently intended for the accommodation of the Princes who had come from Jeddah to receive the letter. The officers and men remained to accompany Commodore Perry, mounted to about 400, while the force of the Japanese was variously estimated from 5,000 to 7,000. Their foremost lines extended around the head of the light for the distance of nearly a mile, and with their number of scarlet pennons, and banners of various devices, presented a novel and beautiful show. The Commodore was escorted, with the American colors flying, and the bands playing the National 'Hail Columbia,' to the house of reception. Here he was received by the Emperor (Idzu), first Counselor of the Prince of Yamato, who was accompanied by the Prince of Yamato, the letter of the President and Commodore Perry's letter of credence were formally delivered, and an official receipt given in return by the two Princes. The interview then terminated, as the latter were not empowered to enter into any negotiations. The Commodore stated, however, that in order to give the Japanese Government ample time for deliberation, he would depart in three or four days and return in a few months, to receive the reply. We may here mention, that this was the only instance in which Commodore Perry met any of the Japanese officials in person. The Governor of Uraga was not received by him, as not being of equal rank, and all the previous and subsequent negotiations with the Japanese, were carried on through the officers of the Commodore's staff, and Commander Buchanan of the Susquehanna.

"The Governor then deputy Governor of Uraga, with the interpreters and attendants after the interview, were treated to a banquet in the Commodore's quarters, and a ship in the Susquehanna, where they were used for the winter, instead of closing it in December, as they had previously contemplated.

bay toward the Eastern shore, and then proceeded to the point reached by the Mississippi, about ten miles above Uraga. On the following day Commodore Perry, in the Mississippi, went about ten miles beyond this, making a total distance of 20 miles beyond the limit of previous exploration. From the deck of the frigate a crowd of shipping was seen, seven or eight miles to the northward; and from the number of junks continually going and coming, it was evident that this was the anchorage in front of the capital. The officers of the Susquehanna and Mississippi speak with admiration of the beauty of the shores, and the rich cultivation and luxuriant vegetation which they everywhere witnessed. The natives with whom they came in contact were friendly in their demeanor, and the Governor of Uraga is spoken of as a model of refinement and good breeding.

"The day before the departure of the squadron the Governor went on board the Susquehanna, taking with him a number of presents, consisting of articles of lacquered ware and other Japanese manufactures. A suitable collection of presents was prepared in return; and, in spite of his declaration that it was contrary to Japanese law, he was obliged to accept them in order to prevent the rejection of his own. The Commodore brought off a large quantity of country for the vessel, and received in return a large box of choice American garden seeds, his acceptance of the presents on the previous visit, having, to his great joy, been sanctioned by his superiors. Notwithstanding the repeated concessions which the Japanese made to the demands of Commodore Perry, they are said to have been very friendly in their intercourse and to have taken their final leave with a show of real regret.

"The squadron sailed from the Bay of Jeddah on the 17th, and, after encountering a severe gale during the 21st and 23d, arrived at Loos-Choo on the 25th of July, and the two steam frigates returned to Hong Kong on the evening of the 7th of August."

IMPORTANT FROM CHINA.—REMOVAL OF THE ARCADE OF PERKIN. By the arrival of the Arctic we have details of the news from China as late as the 20th of August.

It was reported that there had been fighting in the Hunan province; but the rebels forced their way through without apparently sustaining any severe reverse, and had crossed the Yellow River into Shan-tung province, the capital of which, Tsin-fu, it is given out, had fallen. The insurgents retained Nankin and Chinkiang-foo. At the latter place there had been a smart engagement with the Imperialists in which the latter were completely routed, and obliged to retire, the insurgents taking a place towards Soochow, which caused great consternation in that city, which would no doubt shortly be obliged to submit. Amoy, up to the 10th of August, remained in possession of the rebels, but the Imperialists were to make another effort, in force, to retake it, in a few days.

In an attempt to take the Imperial fleet, the rebels were unsuccessful, and very unfortunate in having several of their vessels driven the Mandarins' war junks, and taken, and all on board were beheaded. The place had been visited by a severe typhoon causing great damage to houses and property. Letters from Canton mention the commander of the Imperial troops at the Melin Pass had sent to Canton for assistance and instructions how to act, as the rebels were marching on the pass.

"COMING EVENTS."—The Placerville Herald relates an undisputed fact, gathered from Indians and mountaineers, from every locality where the beaver abounds, that these animals, contrary to their movements for the last seven years, are now raising dams around their ancient habitations more than a foot above their common height, and that they have commenced their work earlier in the season, by at least six weeks, than ever before known. From this, many anticipate an early commencement, and a larger quantity of rain, and of course snow upon the mountains, the coming winter, than on any previous one since the discovery of gold in California.

The relatives of the late A. G. Thompson, of New York, are testing in the Saratoga Court the legality of his will, involving some \$250,000. It bequeaths a large amount of property to religious institutions, while the testator had near relatives living, on whom he bestowed but a comparatively small sum. The contestants dispute the legality of the will on the grounds that undue influence had been exerted over the deceased, by a person having enmity against him; that he was in a frame of mind to be so influenced; and that when in his 'right mind' he made a will favorable to them.

NOT SO DANGEROUS AFTER ALL.—The danger of steamboat travelling is much overrated, and the same may be said of railroads, let alarmists say what they will. For the truth of this assertion we appeal to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury. The Secretary says: "Our whole number of steamboats amount to 1,390; tonnage, 417,230 tons; manned by 29,277 men, and carrying besides freight, 40,000,000 of passengers in the year 1852. In this vast travel only 750 lives were lost. If this be true, and we have no reason to doubt it, then the risk of steamboat travelling amounts to one traveler blown up in 53,265.

DON'T WALK SO FAST.—"I have often used," said Greuter, "a singular stratagem to slacken or quicken the pace of a walking companion. To say you walk too fast or too slow is impolite, save to friends; but to sing softly an air to the time of the walk of your companion, and then, by degrees, either to quicken the time or make it slower, is a stratagem as innocent as it is convenient."

Vincent Gray, of Ohio, was detected last week, in placing a T-rail across the track of the Indianapolis and Bellefontaine railroad. After a patient hearing before a magistrate, he was committed to jail in default of bail to the amount of \$1,000. His defence was that he wanted to take passage in the cars, and the train would not stop to take him up. The obstruction was near a bridge, and only ten feet from a deep quag.

Palmer & Co., of Springfield, Mass., have made a pair of artificial legs for a man who lost his real ones by an accident two years since. With his new legs, the man goes up and down stairs, walks backward and forward without the aid of crutch or cane, and is never troubled with cold feet.

GUANO.—The New York Price Current says several cargoes of Peruvian guano have arrived recently, about 4000 tons, and were sold at \$45 per ton, and four months credit for over that quantity.

The Directors of the Crystal Palace have resolved to keep the Exhibition open throughout the winter, instead of closing it in December, as they had previously contemplated.

We copy from the San Francisco Herald, Sept. 16, the following notice of the late Col. Mason:—"We find in the same paper orders of the First California Guard and the Marine Rifles to assemble in full uniform to join the escort at the funeral of the late Col. Mason. The announcement of the death of James L. Mason, captain of engineers and brevet lieutenant-colonel in the army, is one which will carry regret not only to all those who have been his companions in arms, but to every citizen of the country who appreciates the useful man, the brilliant talent, and the daring gallantry which characterized a distinguished and chivalrous soldier. Colonel Mason began his military life in 1832, at the early age of fourteen, as a cadet of the academy. The confidence of his friends in his boyish ability and promise was very great, and he well supported it. He at once took the head of his class, and was graduated in 1836 with distinguished honors, an officer of the corps of engineers. Many years afterward, other boys used to talk of Mason's brilliant career in his class. He served with credit on several important works, passing through the grades of second and first lieutenant, and attaining that of captain of engineers about the time that the Mexican war opened a larger field for his abilities. Joining the army under command of General Scott, he was distinguished in common with his comrades at the siege of Vera Cruz, and afterwards, attached to Worth's division, he took an active and prominent part in that eventful campaign, contributing to its successful issue no less by his professional skill than his daring gallantry. Before Molino del Rey he executed one of the most brilliant and dashing reconnoissances of the war, and was detailed to lead the storming party of that terrible day.

Few events of the military history of the country are more striking than the attack of the forlorn hope at Molino. The late of the brave colonel, literally swept away by an overwhelming fire of the enemy, is well known; and Capt. Mason was among the severely wounded. At the close of the war he received the grades of brevet major and brevet lieutenant-colonel, and at once took charge of several important works.

At the last session of Congress, a large sum was appropriated for the defence of San Francisco, and Colonel Mason was selected as a member of the Pacific Board of Engineers. Upon the appointment of Colonel Mansfield to the office of Inspector General, he was placed in charge of the important work to be erected on Fort Point, and became the presiding officer of the board.

During his passage out in July, he contracted the Panama fever, and after a lingering illness of nearly two months, he died on Monday, the 5th inst. Colonel Mason was in his 35th year at the time of his death. He has gone from amongst us in the strength of his manhood, and at a time when he was just entering upon a large field of usefulness. That his friends loved him, is the least to be told; but whether they loved him most or admired him most, is hard to say. To his extraordinary genius and acquirements he united a kindly and winning manner, and while the people may well regret in him a faithful and zealous servant of the army, and especially his corps, will long remember his name with mournful pride, as that of a gallant soldier, and a high-toned and accomplished gentleman.

THE WAY TO SPILL POTATOES.—It is singular that many who are otherwise excellent cooks are ignorant of the mode of serving up boiled potatoes. Instead of the fresh, dry, mealy vegetable which graces many tables, theirs are invariably 'soggy' and heavy as bread when the yeast is worthless. Their method of spoiling potatoes after they are well cooked is wonderfully simple. They place them in the dish containing them, hot and smoking from the boiler, a 'light cover' and keep it there—any one can do it; and eat water-logged potatoes in consequence. Better put their cover out of sight, even if the contents of the dish should cool a few minutes sooner than at account. Boiled potatoes intended for the table should not be covered a moment.—Norwich Examiner.

GROTESQUE STYLES OF PANTALOONS THIS WINTER.—The Parisian designers of fashions for gentlemen's wear intend that we shall be annually grotesque this winter. Pantaloons shall be to come in pieces, each piece representing a complete pattern; the more frequent designs are flowers, fruits, creeping plants, twining up the leg; or delicate arabesques about the foot, of top boots reaching to the knee; or knots and buckles and lace work following the line of the outer seam. In Paris recently was seen at a tailor's door a roll of cloth for overcoats, the design upon which was a fantastic arrangement of little bunches of green tooth-picks.

WARNING TO MARRIED MEN.—A contemporary thurstonian the adventures of an individual having a lawful wife:—"A married man, whose habits are not very regular, one evening last week, while walking the streets, encountered a lady whose walk and actions encouraged him to address her. He was pleased at the impression he made, and forthwith offered her his arm to escort her home, which she accepted. After leading him around some five squares, she brought him up to his own house—it was his wife! Since then, he has no sort of doubt that the gentleman has been very cautious how he meddles with ladies in the street."

LUTHER AND THE BIRDS.—With the birds of his native country Martin Luther had established a sweet intimacy, watching, smiling, and thus sweetly moralizing over their habits. "That little fellow," he said of a bird going to roost, "has chosen his shelter, and is quietly racking himself to sleep, without a care for to-morrow's lodging; calmly holding for his little twig, and leaving God to think for him." Christians, in all your situations, you must do the same. Discharge your duty, and 'leave God to think for you.'—

PRIZE FOR A NEW INVENTION.—Moses Y. Beach, the publisher and proprietor of the New York Sun, with his accustomed liberality to inventors, offers a prize of one thousand dollars to any person who will invent a feeding apparatus for his mammoth press that will feed in eight cylinders; he also offers ten thousand dollars for the patent of such an invention. The offer, therefore, for the invention is altogether handsome, and will be open to our inventors until the first of January, 1855.

LARGE YIELD OF CORN.—We are informed that Wm. Earle, Esq., of this place, planted the past season three acres of Indian corn, from which he has harvested upwards of thirty bushels an acre of shell-dried corn, which was planted on light, sandy soil, and which most farmers would have thought hardly worth cultivating, and from which they would have realized hardly anything if they had cultivated it. The valuable seed was sown by Mr. Earle's son, who is a young man of great energy and industry.

THE GRINNELL SEARCHING EXPEDITION. Letters have been received from England announcing the arrival of the Grinnell Expedition at Upper Narvik, in Greenland, and its subsequent departure for Smith's Sound. All well.

The Bank of the State of New York was robbed on Sunday of \$37,000 in bills of its own issue. A reward of \$5000 is offered. Among the bills are seven of the denomination of \$1000 and eight of \$500.

The trial of the officers and owners of the steamboat Henry Clay for manslaughter over, and the jury have returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

TUNNEL THROUGH THE ALPS.—Perhaps we are apt to think that great undertakings can happen in no other country but our own, that Europe is too old foggy to accomplish anything on so magnificent a scale as we are accustomed to. But here we are mistaken. At the present moment a work is about to be undertaken which really eclipses our Pacific Railroad project. A plan is nearly perfected for excavating a tunnel through the Alps to connect the Piedmontese railways with those of France. This tunnel is to be eight miles in length, and a mile below the highest point of the pass over the mountain. It is estimated to cost a million and a half pounds sterling. But the actual cost, although very great, does not measure the magnitude of the undertaking. A tunnel cannot be made through the Alps without the highest scientific attainments, and the highest scientific attainments are not to be had but by ordinary arithmetic. Very few questions can arise but such as may be easily decided. But not so here. It is proposed to build a road which shall be eight miles in length, directly through the mountains. A vast many difficulties will obviously arise. They have never occurred in any other undertaking, for there never was another like this. They must, therefore, be surmounted by scientific skill alone.

An excavating machine has been constructed similar in some respects to the Hoe's boring. The tunnel will be ventilated by a tube provided with fans to maintain proper currents of air.

A GREAT TEN MILE RACE FOR \$10,000.—A match for \$10,000 has just been made by the owners of two celebrated Geldings, one of which is the Hero, the pacer, and the other is known as the Sorel Gelding of Huron Woodruff. The distance agreed upon by the parties is ten miles in round on the Union Course. The horses are each equal in speed to any now in the turf of the United States, and this long race, has been made expressly with a view of testing the speed and bottom of Hero, which is claimed to be the fastest pacer in the world. It will probably be a thorough test of which is the best breed in a race of such long distance, and bids fair to create some considerable excitement among those who take an interest in good horses.

The race came off on the Centreville course, on Tuesday. Hero was favorite but Prince was the winner. The ten miles were run in 45 1/2. The last mile was run in 2 3/4.

ACCIDENT ON THE HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.—Wonderful Preservation of the Passengers.—The express train upon the Hudson River Railroad, going west, was thrown off the track on Saturday evening, near Yonkers, owing to the negligence of a switch tender. The train consisted of thirteen passenger cars, one baggage car, and two powerful locomotives, and carried 700 passengers. When the accident occurred, the train was going at the rate of 35 or 40 miles an hour. The engineers discovered the misplaced switch a short distance ahead, and immediately reversed their engines and leaped off, followed by the firemen. The train was dived off into the midst of a lot of freight cars, standing on a side track; the two locomotives and the passenger cars were smashed, and the loss is estimated at \$50,000. Many of the passengers were more or less bruised, but no lives were lost, not a bone broken. The switch tender has absconded.

Letters from Mexico state that Santa Anna has failed in every effort he has made to raise revenue. The attempt to create a national bank to furnish the government with money has been abandoned, and the government is destitute of means to pay its daily expenses, notwithstanding the six millions of dollars received from the church.

The church have successfully pleaded inability to furnish a second loan, that was demanded to the tune of \$17,000,000. The proposition to raise an army of 100,000, which Santa Anna contemplated when he came into power, has also been abandoned, and it is hardly possible to raise 40,000. Living is becoming more expensive, and the people more and more discontented.

OLD TERTLE.—Mr. Ashbel Clark of Milford, last week picked up a Turtle on his farm, which was marked by Aaron Mallory 1759, and found again in 1813 by Samuel Clark, who inscribed his initials and date upon it. The first date, it will be observed, was ninety five years ago. How much older it is, of course there is no means of knowing. What is a little singular in this case is the fact that Mr. Ashbel Clark, who recently found it, was found and marked by him 40 years since. It was found in both of the latter instances in the same lot and within a few rods of the same place. After adding his name to the 'traveling record,' Mr. C. again set the old fellow at liberty to resume his 'course of time.'—New Haven Pall.

A conical Flouring mill has been invented in England which is said to be fast coming into use, and makes better flour, and an increased quantity from the same wheat, over the old flat mill. It is baked into bread, to which much more facility. The weight of the mill stones, by this invention, is reduced from 14 cwt. to 14 cwt., and the conical mills, besides turning out better flour, and more of it from the same kind of wheat, than the old mill, will manufacture more than twice the quantity of flour in a given time. While the flat mill is grinding three bushels, the conical mills grind over eight bushels.

In Chicago, recently, three or four pig habit young fellows, who had been in the habit of imbibing quite freely, have proposed total abstinence for one year, under a penalty of five hundred dollars, and a bond was drawn up and checks for that amount placed in the hands of a friend, to be forfeited by the one who takes the first glass. The checks are placed between the lids of the Bible, to be drawn on in the first violation.

The English papers state, that among the emigrants who perished in the British ship Anne Jane, wrecked on the coast of Ireland, were a hundred house carpenters and joiners from Glasgow—fresh, able, young men.

THE GRINNELL SEARCHING EXPEDITION. Letters have been received from England announcing the arrival of the Grinnell Expedition at Upper Narvik, in Greenland, and its subsequent departure for Smith's Sound. All well.

The Bank of the State of New York was robbed on Sunday of \$37,000 in bills of its own issue. A reward of \$5000 is offered. Among the bills are seven of the denomination of \$1000 and eight of \$500.

The trial of the officers and owners of the steamboat Henry Clay for manslaughter over, and the jury have returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

MORMONISM.—A Marmons paper at Salt Lake publishes the following, by authority:—"It is at least a singular document, and would look better in some Mohammedan paper than in one professing some degree of Christianity."

THE BLESSING OF CELESTIAL MARRIAGE. Inasmuch as the saints in Utah consider it a moral virtue, and scriptural to practice the plurality system, they would seek by every means to eradicate, not only from their own minds, but from the minds of their children, every erroneous impression, which they have formerly imbibed, by their associations with the nations of modern christendom. Parents who have daughters should seek to instill into their minds that it is just as honorable for them to be united in marriage to good man who is already a husband, as to one that is single. They should be taught to reject the society of all wicked men, whether single or not. A father should be impartial to all his children, and cultivate the same love for them all, while each wife should instill into the minds of their own children the necessity of loving the children of each of the others as brothers and sisters. Each wife should not only care for the welfare of her husband and children, but should seek the happiness of each of her other wives and children. And likewise the children of each wife should not only respect, honor and love their own mother, but also the mothers of all their brothers and sisters. By observing these precepts, peace and tranquility will reign throughout every department of the family, and the spirit of God will flow from heart to heart.

SENATORS TROUBLE IN THE CHEROKEE NATION.—The Washington Star says that the Government has just received advice from all the western Superintendents of Indian Affairs, saying that a portion of the Cherokee Nation are in arms against their tribal authorities, that some one hundred of the discontented recently attacked and murdered John and Washington Adair, two noted friends of the Ross party. That as yet, the anti-Rossites in arms at this time number two hundred fighting men, who declare their determination to kill or drive out from the nation persons obnoxious to them, to the number of sixty-five men. The Government officers there regard this episode as the commencement of the reneement of the terrible troubles in the tribe which it will be remembered, occurred in 1846; they suggest the necessity for a prompt increase of the United States forces at Fort Smith and Gibson, and also orders be sent from this point authorizing their employment in the defence of the authorities of the tribe, if the latter shall demand such assistance. The Indian Bureau have at once brought this subject before the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, with recommendation that the steps indicated above be immediately taken by the Government here.

A DASH OF COLD WATER.—A celebrated writer of vaudevilles, being engaged in a shower, took refuge under a porch. A very pretty person soon lifted the window and after looking at him attentively for a moment, sent a servant to him with an umbrella. The next day the delighted author dressed himself up to his last result of the problem of what was becoming, and as the umbrella was an old one, laid it aside as a souvenir, and purchasing a new one of the choicest taste, called on the lady to return her flattery loan. She received the new umbrella evidently without remarking the change, and after listening, with curious gravity, to the rather pressing tenderness of the dramatist's acknowledgements, she suddenly comprehended that he was enamored of her, and forthwith mildly explained that as he had stood in the way of a gentleman who wished to come and see her, unobserved, she had sent him the umbrella to get him off the front steps!

PLOWING IN PORTUGAL.—The way they plow in Portugal is primitive, indeed. A late traveler says:

The principal agricultural instrument used here and throughout the provinces is the lapa. It is a ponderous iron fork, consisting of two prongs, six inches apart, and a yard long, the handle being formed of a perpendicular piece of wood attached to one extremity of the horizontal bar, which unites the prongs. When a field is to be tilled, eight or a dozen peasants station themselves in a row, each holding a lapa in both hands, which they simultaneously raise, and then with the impetus of the descent, drive deep into the ground, turning up a ridge of soil at each delivery. They then take one step backward, and perform the same operation with singular rapidity and regularity.

ARRIVAL OF A DISTINGUISHED TRAVELER.—Adame Pfeiffer, a lady of extraordinary energy and daring, who has made the tour of the world, arrived at San Francisco, in the barque Seneca, from Batavia. She is, perhaps, the greatest traveler living, having traversed a whole Asia, Africa, Europe, Tartary, India, and penetrated into the unexplored depths of Malacca, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, and other East India islands. She has made her way through howling wildernesses, inhabited by savage beasts and men equally savage, without fear or hesitation, and has always managed to extricate herself from the perils that beset her by her address and courage.

THE WONDERS OF BABYLON.—A correspondent, writing to the Auburn Advertiser, tells of two remarkable babies, one eight months old, that can sing more than twenty times. (Nobody will doubt the truth of that statement.) The other baby, he says, is two years old, and never made the least noise, 'not even a whisper.' It can make a proper place to cry, but can't cause the noise. He also speaks of another in Niagara county that ain't a baby, though it is twelve years of age, the child 'never had a tooth or the sign of one.'

TELEGRAPH SPED BY AN EBONAT.—A telegraphic despatch from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to Baltimore, dated at Baltimore, in this country, making a distance of eighty miles in an hour and ten minutes. The last thirty miles were done in the almost incredible time of twenty minutes. He says he reached an altitude of four miles, and was hurried along by a heavy gale nearly the whole distance.

ON THE 23d inst., as the steamer Capt. Cronan, was leaving New York, while firing for a pilot, burst, injuring the chief engineer, who died in a few hours. His wife was sister.

"YOUNG MAN COOPER."—On Th a marriage took place at Manchester, N. H., in which the parties were respectively twenty and thirty years of age. Let it be the ceremony they should be not over precipitate if your design require great considerations, as they must have their time of maturing, otherwise they will prove abortive.

Beyond all question the finest collection of works of Art ever opened to the American public, can now be seen at the Crystal Palace. Heretofore the exhibitions of imported pictures have been extremely limited, and in no one collection have we had so great a variety. It may be said that, as in every other gallery, there are pictures in the walls that are not worth the frames in which they are displayed, but these are more than balanced by very many of the higher order of art, and the whole combined draw together a larger and more interested crowd of spectators than any other department in the whole exhibition. Those who flock to that long and often densely crowded gallery, evidently go there to enjoy the beauties spread out to view. Their appreciation is genuine, though from want of cultivation it may not always be rightly biased; but still, there is real pleasure afforded the thousands who there daily congregate; and if a permanent gallery of decided merit were once opened to the public in our large cities, it would sustain itself, and afford infinite delight and satisfaction to the crowds who always rush to such sights.

The advantages derived from the frequent contemplation of works of a high order of Art can hardly be calculated. The mind is improved, the eye gratified, and the heart expands under their silent but certain influence. No corrupt or vicious person can take delight in contemplating a beautiful creation of genius; such as one feels nothing pleasing in that which is so refining in its influence, so elevating in its character. By keeping a gallery ever open to the public, the heart of youth is early touched. Pictures extend their sway over his imagination before he has learned to comprehend that which affords pleasure not to be described. Beauty and purity will have triumphed, and in after years, the seeds so gently and quietly planted, will expand with his growth, to find expression in a thousand nameless ways. The boy who learns to dance with grace, can never be an awkward man; and the lesson of refined beauty, early caught from the canvas or marble, cannot be smothered by the cares and vexations of after life.

The Parisians are aware of the advantages to be derived from a permanent gallery of Art. Through all the changes of government the Louvre is still kept open to the public one day in the week—a holiday in Paris—when thousands are there seen wandering from hall to hall and spending the whole day in studying a few favorite pictures. Their recreation for all that is connected with Art is very great, and it is related of the mob that broke into the Palace of the Tuileries at the time of the flight of Louis Philippe, that a boy no sooner described a picture representing the capture of an American Bison, than he dropped his sword, called the crowd around him and explained the scene, a novel one to them but one with which he happened to be acquainted. Could a mob in this country be thus turned aside by a picture, or is it probable they would spare the works of Art on the walls when ransacking the house of one they considered a tyrant?

The result of this constant study of Art is very apparent in everything that comes from the hands of the French—their wares, every article of daily use bears the impress, and all they do conveys the impression that as a people they are eminently artistic. That their ideal is not always pure is the fault of their teachers, but new and better hands may yet guide their taste and a nation so apt to learn will not be long in seeking out and appropriating higher and more perfect models.

But we have wandered far from the gallery in the Crystal Palace, and have now only room to speak of the pictures in general terms. By far the largest number of these are from the German and French schools, with here and there an Italian, English or American production.

The greater number of the German pictures are landscapes—beautifully drawn, full of feeling and appreciation, and often so enchanting that we longed to linger hours under their influence. The Germans draw well and faithfully; would that they could escape from their mannerism in coloring. There is one by Sial, number 97 we think, that exemplifies this peculiarity. The light on the mountains is perfect, and one can almost hear the roar of the torrent and dip the humid water from its rugged basin; but perfectly as the rocks and trees are drawn, the coloring is too unreal.

The French have no pictures by their highest artists—Veruet, Delacroix and Ingres are not represented. Some of the specimens of the French school here seen are pictures that have been hawked about and were probably sent to this country for sale; among these we notice "The Adulteress at the Feet of Christ," and "Shipwrecked persons attacked by a Shark," which were at the exposition of the Louvre in 1846; and some winter landscapes exhibited are not new to those who frequented the Boulevards that year.

Among the pictures exhibited by American Artists, stands foremost the "Washington Crossing the Delaware," by Leutze. This is unquestionably a fine work of art, and we wish the artist could have had the vacant space in the Capitol to fill, for obvious reason. The largest picture by an American, is about the most absurd thing ever put on canvas, and until we turned to the catalogue we could get no clue to its meaning. "Diogenes Successful," by Anelli, of New York, we never saw anything more ridiculous. Diogenes we mistook for a chimney-sweep, and his work by an apparition.

tion. And who, think you, reader, is the honest man found by this bright-eyed rags-picker—no less than Washington, who stands erect, immovable, with an unmeaning look, and without bestowing a thought on the figure crouching at his feet.

We have already exceeded our limits, but must speak of two pictures of the old Masters, on exhibition. The one, Madonna and Child, by Carlo Dolci; the other, same subject, by Murillo. The first is an exquisite picture, and far too beautiful in all its coloring for Carlo Dolci, who always used certain conventional colors and left his pictures highly wrought, but cold and hard. This picture is soft, luminous, and with almost the sweetness of Corregio. The other picture is altogether below the standard of Murillo, and we venture to say that it was ascribed to him as pictures are often made—by guess work.

The rumbling of vehicles over rough cobble stones will no longer be heard when the invention of the "Royal Patent Noiseless Wheels," becomes general. The whole secret of this discovery is in adjusting to the wheels a tire of India Rubber, of sufficient thickness to withstand the pressure brought upon it. In England, carriages so constructed are becoming quite common, and it is stated that in London there is a company in course of formation, to be called the "Noiseless Conveyance Company," for omnibuses and cabs, at the present fair. What a relief it would be to Broadway if all the omnibuses that travel through that thoroughfare were so arranged as to deaden the noise they now make! But if this invention comes into general use, the horses will have to wear bells, to warn passengers of their approach; else there would be constant danger of being run over. The everlasting jingle of bells would then pretty nearly equal the present noise of the iron tires. But there is one real advantage growing out of this invention and that is, invalids can be removed without suffering from the jolting and vibration usually experienced in riding over a paved way.

We have received from Mr. Joux F. Newell a very handsome Lithograph of the Regatta at Bristol Ferry, in September last. Mr. Newell is a "Newport Boy" who early showed a taste for drawing, and a few years since he placed himself under the tuition of a lithographer in Boston, in which business he is now successfully engaged. The scene of this sketch is laid at Sandy Point, Providence, and is a very correct drawing, the island of Providence alone being out of keeping, the artist having given it too great an altitude. Copies of this print are for sale by Wm. H. Peck.

We learn from a New York correspondent that Williams, Stevens & Williams' annual sale of Works of Art will take place on the 25th, 26th and 27th inst. in New York, at which time they will dispose of their large and valuable stock. We may add that their pictures are works of merit, many of them ranking very high. We have repeatedly run through their collection and have found in it much to admire. If any of our readers would have really fine paintings on their walls, we would advise them to be present.

The efforts in Honolulu to insure the removal of the Ministers—Messrs. Judd and Armstrong—have failed, the Committee having reported adversely to the petition of the foreign population, and there now seems a probability that these Ministers will securely retain their present position.

The small pox has carried off great numbers from all the islands, the whole number of cases amounting to 4,495, and the deaths to 1,629.

Look out for housebreakers, as a number are about, ready to enter wherever they find a door or window slightly fastened. It is much easier to make all secure in time than to make good a loss sustained through carelessness. We hope the watch will succeed in catching one of these night-prowlers and make an example of him.

Preparations are making to erect a light house on the Lime Rocks in this harbor, as ordered by government. When once constructed it will enable the night boats to enter with greater ease, and will add much to the safety and convenience of the harbor.

In the Providence Journal, of the 1st inst. we had a beautiful tribute to the memory of Malbone, the Artist, which will be read with interest by residents in his native place; we shall therefore transfer it to our columns next week.

Brighton Market, Thursday last.
At market, 3500 Beef Cattle, 1800 Steers 18 pairs of Working Oxen, 104 Cows and Calves, 5100 sheep and lambs, 1880 Swine.
Price—Beef Cattle—Extra \$7.75; 1st quality \$7.50; 2nd quality \$6.75; 3rd quality \$6.00; 4th quality \$5.50.
Cows and Calves—\$2.00, 21, 24, 25, 30, 35, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180, 185, 190, 195, 200, 205, 210, 215, 220, 225, 230, 235, 240, 245, 250, 255, 260, 265, 270, 275, 280, 285, 290, 295, 300, 305, 310, 315, 320, 325, 330, 335, 340, 345, 350, 355, 360, 365, 370, 375, 380, 385, 390, 395, 400, 405, 410, 415, 420, 425, 430, 435, 440, 445, 450, 455, 460, 465, 470, 475, 480, 485, 490, 495, 500, 505, 510, 515, 520, 525, 530, 535, 540, 545, 550, 555, 560, 565, 570, 575, 580, 585, 590, 595, 600, 605, 610, 615, 620, 625, 630, 635, 640, 645, 650, 655, 660, 665, 670, 675, 680, 685, 690, 695, 700, 705, 710, 715, 720, 725, 730, 735, 740, 745, 750, 755, 760, 765, 770, 775, 780, 785, 790, 795, 800, 805, 810, 815, 820, 825, 830, 835, 840, 845, 850, 855, 860, 865, 870, 875, 880, 885, 890, 895, 900, 905, 910, 915, 920, 925, 930, 935, 940, 945, 950, 955, 960, 965, 970, 975, 980, 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